

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 09681 310312Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSM-03 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00
DOE-15 SOE-02 /127 W
-----053122 311014Z /15

R 301605Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7377
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PEPR EG IS XF
SUBJECT: PRESS TREATMENT OF BEGIN SPEECH AND PEACE
- PROCESS

SUMMARY. MAIN HEADLINES MARCH 30 DEAL WITH BEGIN'S
KNESSET SPEECH, HIGHLIGHTING DIFFERENCES WITH U.S. AND
HIS DIFFICULTIES WITH OPPOSITION, CONTRAST GOE POSITIVE
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ROLE IN PEACE PROCESS. EDITORIALS CRITICIZE BEGIN FOR
VACILLATING POLICY AND STATE GOE WILL "WATCH AND WAIT"
FOR CHANGES IN ISRAEL AND U.S. (WHICH MUST PLAY "MORE
EFFECTIVE" ROLE). END SUMMARY.

1. BEGIN SPEECH. COVERAGE OF BEGIN SPEECH BEFORE
KNESSET HIGHLIGHTED GOI DIFFERENCES WITH U.S. AND

BEGIN'S INTERNAL POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES. PAPERS PLAYED PERES' SPEECH AS HIS "MOST VIOLENT ATTACK" EVER ON BEGIN SAYING IF SADAT'S AIM WAS TO CREATE UNREST BETWEEN ISRAEL AND U.S., BEGIN GOVERNMENT HAD "HELPED SADAT ACCOMPLISH THIS MISSION".

2. COMMENTARY. AHRAM CRITICIZES BEGIN'S "VACILLATION" BETWEEN DESIRE FOR PEACE AND INABILITY TO ACHIEVE IT, ACCUSING HIM OF RESORTING TO DELAY TACTICS TO AVOID MAKING PEACE. EDITORIAL IN GUMHURIYYA SAYS BEGIN TOOK OPPORTUNITY OF ARAB LEAGUE MEETING TO CLAIM HE HAD FORWARDED "AMENDED PROPOSALS" TO EGYPT, BUT IN FACT HE TRYING TO RESUME TALKS "WITHOUT MAKING ONE STEP FORWARD". BEGIN IS IN "CRITICAL POSITION" AT HOME AND IN TROUBLE IN U.S. GOE STRATEGY NOW IS TO "WATCH AND WAIT" FOR CHANGE IN ISRAEL AND AMERICA. U.S. MUST ASSUME "MORE EFFECTIVE" ROLE.

3. COMMENT. PRESS CONTINUING CONTRAST BEGIN'S DISAGREEMENTS AND DIFFICULTIES WITH EGYPT AS POSITIVE ACTOR WHOSE INITIATIVE ENJOYS UNIVERSAL SUPPORT. NO DOUBT CONTRAST INSPIRED PARTLY BY ARAB LEAGUE CONFERENCE AND GOE'S DESIRE TO SHOW SADAT INITIATIVE HAS EFFECTIVELY PUT ISRAEL ON DEFENSIVE. EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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TAGS: PEPR, SOPN, EG, IS, XF, (CARTER, JIMMY), (BEGIN, MENAHEM)
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